## Message Text

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62.

**ACTION CU-05** 

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 USIA-12 /024 W

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R 031520Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2149

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: OEXC. UR

SUBJECT: IREX ARRIVALS

FOR CU/EE

- 1. JUNIOR SCHOLAR NEIL KOBLITZ AND WIFE ARRIVED AFTERNOON AUGUST 30, ABOUT SAME TIME AS IREX TELEGRAM TELLING US THEY WERE COMING. RESPONSIBLE MINISTRY AND UNIVERSITY OFFICIALS IMPOSSIBLE TO REACH FRIDAY AFTERNOON AND UNIVERSITY ACCOMMODATION COULD NOT RPT NOT BE HAD WITHOUT PRIOR ARRANGEMENT.
- 2. KOBLITZ SAID WHEN HE HAD CALLED IREX BEFORE LEAVING U.S.
  PREVIOUS DAY THEY SAID THEY HAD FORGOTTEN TO SEND EARLIER NOTICE
  OF ARRIVAL (KOBLITZ CAME SEPARATELY BECAUSE OF MATHEMATICS CONFERENCE)

BUT GAVE HIM LIST OF PHONE NUMBERS WHICH THEY SAID HE COULD USE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS. NONE OF THESE WORKED UNTIL HE CALLED EMBASSY FAIRLY LATE IN DAY.

3. PLEASE ADVISE IREX THAT THE CONDITION OF SOVIET LIFE REQUIRES SEVERAL WORKING DAYS ADVANCE NOTICE FOR ARRIVALS AND THAT ARRANGE-MENTS SELDOM CAN BE MADE ON THE SPOT (LATE-DAY AND WEEKENDS IMPOSS-IBLE). WHEN ASSIGNED ACCOMMODATIONS FOR GRANTEE CANNOT BE HAD, SUBSTITUTE HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS ARE NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE AND IN ANY CASE VERY TIME CONSUMING AND EXPENSIVE TO GRANTEE. EMBASSY USUALLY CAN

PUT UP UNEXPECTED ARRIVAL IN SOMEONE'S APARTMENT, BUT THIS ALSO NOT EAST IF GRANTEE ARRIVES IN MIDST OF SEVERAL OTHER ACTIVITES OR IF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HE MISSES CONTACT WITH APPROPORITE EMBOFF. ATTEMPTS AT LAST MINUTE

PERSUASION TO GET MINISTRY AND UNIVERSITY TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS, WHEN KEY OFFICIAL NOT AVAILABLE, ARE EMBARRASSING TO EMB. RELATIONS WITH THESE ORGANIZATIONS IF REPEATED.

4. SUCH LACK OF ADVANCE NOTICE HAPPENED FOUR TIMES LAST FALL, FINALLY RESULTING IN MINISTRY COMPLAINT. PLEASE IREX TO SET UP FAIL-SAFE NOTICE SYSTEM. DUBS

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